

Remarks

Claims 15 - 31 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The prior claims had been rejected over *Barthel*, who requires that all his very hydrophobic silicas have methanol numbers greater than 50, and preferably much higher, regardless of how they are prepared. Applicants' claims require a maximum methanol number of 30. *Barthel* thus teaches away from the claimed invention. *Barthel* discloses no compositions which are aqueous dispersions, o/w, or w/o dispersions.

Tojo is completely silent with regard to methanol number, and thus does not teach or suggest the claimed invention. With respect to claims 16 - 19, all of the silanes employed by *Tojo* contain an alkenyl group, chloroalkyl group, or chloroalkenyl group on the silane, which is outside the scope of each of the claims 16 - 18. Moreover, *Tojo* only describes rubber compositions, and no dispersion of any kind, regardless of the nature of the silane used to silylate the silica.

As stated in the last Response, there is clearly no anticipation by either reference. If any rejection over *Barthel* or *Tojo* is made under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the Office must point specifically to the references by column and line where each of the claim limitations are disclosed by the reference.

The Petition fee of \$120.00 is being transmitted electronically herewith. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978.

Respectfully submitted,

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